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COMMERCE & TRANSPORT (TRANSPORT) DEPARTMENT
RESOLUTION

The 7th November, 2023

Subject: Implementation of the New Scheme "Construction / Renovation and Maintenance of 55 nos. of Block Level Bus Stands and maintenance of 4 New Bus Stands previously developed at Balangir, Jeypore, Motu and Athagarh".

The Government of Odisha is developing State-of-the-Art Public Transport infrastructure across the State. As a result of concerted efforts of the State Government towards Sustainable Development initiatives, the Scheme has been envisaged with the objective to strengthening the Transportation ecosystem in the State through developing quality, reliable, sustainable, resilient and safe public infrastructure.

The purpose of the Scheme is to develop/ revamp Bus Stands in every Block of the State along with standardized Operation and Maintenance of these model Bus Stands. Further, the Scheme shall ensure efficient & effective asset monitoring, monetization, enforcement and safeguard the public assets.

More to that, the development of resilient and Bus Stands in every Block across the entire State will undoubtedly result in an enhancement of the socio-economic well-being of the population. Considering the feasible & accessible locations, focus would be naturally on Operation & Management of Bus Stands.

OBJECTIVES

As the State Government is working efficiently towards attaining various Sustainable Development Goals(SDG), Public Transport Infrastructure is one of the

major SDG as on date. Down the years, the State has augmented motorable road network across the State. Despite having 5th largest share of road connectivity in India, only 15% of the Public Transport Infrastructure are available across the State.

A Bus Stand is often considered as a mundane part of our daily lives, plays a pivotal role in the functioning of a State's transportation system. Serving as a hub for public transit, it connects different parts of the State, facilitating the movement of people and goods. Beyond its functional role, the Bus Stand serves as a junction of diverse cultures, where people from various walks of life converge.

The Government of Odisha has launched various measures in recent years to improve the efficiency and dependability of Public Transport. There have been very few attempts to produce comprehensive public transport infrastructure across the State to improve accessibility for people, Bus Stands were constructed on silos. Hence, the proposal places a strong emphasis on design, development and construction of uniform as well aspirational transport infrastructure in all Blocks of Odisha by giving accessible options to users who face barriers such as, Wheelchair users, People with limited walking/ movement abilities, elderly persons, pregnant ladies and children.

THE PLAN

Under the Scheme "**Construction / Renovation and Maintenance of Block Level Bus Stands**" 55 number of State-of-the-Art Bus Stands are proposed to be developed across 23 Districts.

The development work of 23 New Bus Stands has been completed and the same were inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister and the remaining Bus Stands are in the finishing stage. Furthermore, to maintain these Assets and to improve public convenience, the District Administration would engage suitable and professional Facility Management Services (FMS) organisations and Mission Shakti Self Help Groups (SHGs) to ensure the facilities that should be maintained and kept in good condition, ensuring passenger safety and comfort. Besides, appropriate FMS must be provided for the additional 4 nos. of New Bus Stands that were already built by the State Government at Balangir, Jeypore, Athagarh, and Motu.

Since Public Transport is an essential demand in almost all areas of the State, the Government strives to maintain accessibility and succeeding in achieving affordable State of the art services. The Scheme would not only strengthen the Public Transport ecosystem but would also act as an economic centre for development of socioeconomic profile of the Blocks. For effective monitoring and enforcement, the State-level Steering Committee and State-level Executive Committee have been established. As well, the District-level Nodal Committee, Sub-divisional level Committee and Block-level Committee have been recognized and empowered for on-ground monitoring, operation and management of the Assets.

This Scheme will put special emphasis on building eco-friendly Bus Stands across the State to deliver comprehensive bus operation services in accordance with the policy framework based on a laid down procedure as decided by the Steering Committee.

JUSTIFICATION

Construction of Bus Stands in every Block of Odisha is a strategic and transformational initiative that would yield a multitude of benefits that includes promoting social cohesiveness, economic growth and environmental sustainability. The magnitude of these advantages, however, is influenced by numerous variables, including the infrastructure, quality and overall development in the area.

Access to reliable Public Transportation is essential for inclusive development. Public Transportation is often more affordable than private/personal vehicles, making it accessible to a broader range of people. The proposed Bus Stands would ensure all residents, especially those who live in rural/semi-urban areas, have the means to receive superior public transport amenities and engage in economic activity. This reduces disparities and fosters inclusive growth.

Odisha is rich in natural and cultural attractions. Ensuring that every Block has a Bus Stand makes it simpler for tourists to explore the State's diverse offerings. This can boost tourism, create jobs, and stimulate economic growth, particularly in less-visited areas. Bus Stands can become hubs for cultural exchange as people from different areas interact while traveling.

Having Bus Stands in every Block creates a network of infrastructure that can be used at the time of emergencies such as for quick evacuation, emergency medical

transport, and the distribution of relief supplies during catastrophes like natural disasters or medical crises.

Bus Stands can serve as catalysts for local economic activities. They create opportunities for businesses such as shops, restaurants, and transportation-related services, which can stimulate economic development at the Block level.

CONSULTATION

The Detail Project Report (DPR) has been developed in consultation with Revenue & Disaster Management Department (R&DM), Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Department, Housing and Urban Development Department, Works Department, Finance Department and Odisha State Police Housing & Welfare Corporation Ltd. (OSPH & WC). Furthermore, the identification of suitable land for construction of Block level Bus Stands have been finalized on recommendation of the respective District Administration. District Administration has involved Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) and Block functionaries at the Sub-district levels.

An Independent monitoring agency i.e., third Party Quality Assurance and Audit (TPQA) for quality audit of the new Block level Bus Stands under the Scheme has been consulted for their quality assessment on various aspects of the project. In connection to this, Odisha State Police Housing & Welfare Corporation Ltd (OSPH & WC) has also been verified the DPR & financial matrix, etc. Valuable suggestions and remarks from these Departments have diligently been sought and incorporated throughout the project as and when required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

Budgetary requirement has been projected for Four (04) years from 2022-23 to 2025-26 considering the medium-term estimation for FY 2023-24. The total project cost is estimated to be approximately ₹373.13 Crore. Year-wise and Component-wise Project Cost details is given in the Table below.

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Capital Cost of 55 Block-level Bus Stands (In Crore)	Operational Cost of 55 Block-level Bus Stands (In Crore)	Operational Cost of 4 Block-level Bus Stands (In Crore)
1	2022-23	272.28	---	---

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Capital Cost of 55 Block-level Bus Stands (In Crore)	Operational Cost of 55 Block-level Bus Stands (In Crore)	Operational Cost of 4 Block-level Bus Stands (In Crore)
2	2023-24	31.80	12.14	01.74
3	2024-25	---	23.77	03.14
4	2025-26	---	24.96	03.30
Sub Total		304.08	60.87	08.18
Total		373.13		

The cost outlay of the project was discussed at the level of Steering Committee and Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC).

Provisioning of budget from 2024-25 onwards will be made towards viability gap fund for Operation & Maintenance of these New Bus Stands on the basis of revenue generation and proper utilization of funds.

ORDER : Ordered that the Resolution be published in the Extraordinary issue of the *Odisha Gazette* and copies of the Resolution be forwarded to all Departments, all Heads of Departments and Accountant General, Odisha.

By Order of the Governor
 USHA PADHEE
 Principal Secretary to Government